

I have had two letters regarding this perfin, both written before the December (315) Bulletin came out. This comment from **John Marriner** would appear to confirm the text in Bulletin 315.

John sent the following photocopy of the three high value Machin stamps.



His observations are:-

"The three stamps look as though they have been taken from a "local" F.D.C. and then perfinned. The cancels are from Thetford in Norfolk, similar geographically to those mentioned in the article, and are in the V.F.U. category. But, when one places the stamps on top of each

other the perfin "lines up" as though they were all done together, not too unusual if the stamps were perfinned by a reputable source. But again, when one examines the reverse of the stamps the "swarf/residue" from the pins passing through the stamps is still "proud". This would have disappeared if the stamps had been perfinned and then stuck onto an envelope, making the reverse of the stamp "flat", even after soaking off.

So I suspect, for what reason I do not know, that they were done for ulterior motives, not for any large financial gain, but, I bought them, so someone benefited somewhere!"

Jack Brandt also took the time to check his collection. He found a cover which has a 3p (crimson) and 2 vertical pairs of 3Yip (light brown), all with this perfin. The perfins are all upright from the front and because the pairs are not in a block of 4, possibly the construction of the machine is such that it only allows the stamps to be perforated one in from the side. In the pairs, the perfins are at a slight angle to each other and not in line. The cancel is Bury-St-Edmunds of 18 Oct 1984. The address is written by hand.